

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

DRC-01 AID-20 PC-04 /172 W

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R 071420Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3877

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 6806

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, TS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PASSES TOUGHER STRIKE LAW

REF: TUNIS A-155

HEEDING INSTRUCTIONS OF PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA IN OCT 7 SPEECH
TO PSD (REFAIR), NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTED ON DEC 4 REVISED
ARTICLES OF LABOR CODE TO PROVIDE STIFFER PENALTIES FOR
ILLEGAL STRIKE ACTIVITY. NEW PROVISIONS, WHICH DESIGNED
DISCOURAGE AND PUNISH ACTIONS SUCH AS THOSE WHICH OCCURRED
DURING TUNIS BUS STRIKE LAST MAY WHEN WORKERS OCCUPIED DEPOT
AND DAMAGED BUSES, DID NOT HAVE APPROVAL OF TRADE UNION (UGTT)
LEADERS IN ASSEMBLY. UGTT SEC GEN SAID NEW MEASURES
UNNECESSARY IN VIEW OF PRESENT ENTENTE BETWEEN EMPLOYERS,
WORKERS AND GOT AND IN ANY CASE LAW SHOULD BE LIMITED TO
SPECIFIC VITAL SECTORS OF ECONOMY. PM NOUIRA DEFENDED LAW FOR
GOT SAYING IT WAS TO PROTECT WORKERS' FREEDOM TO WORK AND KEEP
EQUIPMENT FROM BEING MISUSED. HE ALLUDED TO PAST INCIDENT
(BUS STRIKE) WHEN SITUATION WOULD HAVE DEGENERATED IF
AUTHORITIES HAD NOT INTERVENED. NEW LAW ADOPTED WITH FOUR
OPPOSING VOTES AND THREE ABSENTENTIONS. THIS REVISION AND
SPEED OF ITS ENACTMENT SHOWS GOT SENSITIVITY ON LABOR SCENE
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AND DESIRE TO KEEP LABOR DISPUTES UNDER CONTROL. WHETHER NEW

PROVISIONS WILL HAVE THIS EFFECT IS DEBATABLE PARTICULARLY
SINCE UGTT OPPOSED THESE CHANGES. DETAILS FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.
SEELYE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR LAW, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, LABOR DISPUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TUNIS06806
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731236/aaaabaqq.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TUNIS A-155
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PASSES TOUGHER STRIKE LAW
TAGS: ELAB, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005